

# Signals and Circuits

**ENGR 35500**

## Transistor

Chapter 17: 17-1 (DC operation of bipolar junction transistor)(pp. 781-785)

Floyd, T. L., and Buchla, D. M., *Electronics Fundamentals: Circuits, Devices & Applications*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Pearson, 2009.

Chapter 3: 3-7 (Application Note: Bipolar Junction Transistor )(pp. 127-130)

Ulaby, Fawwaz T., and Maharbiz, Michael M., *Circuits*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, National Technology and Science Press, 2013.



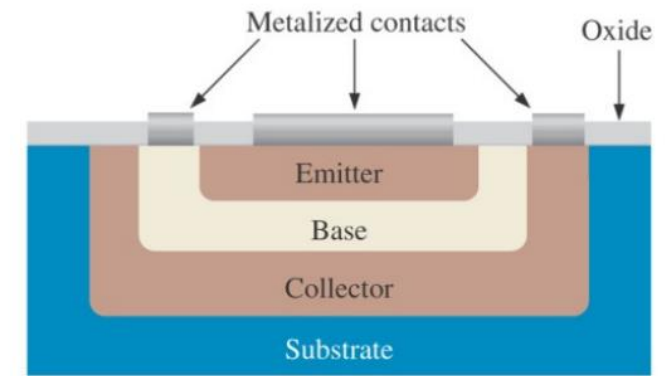
# Transistor

## ➤ Transistor construction

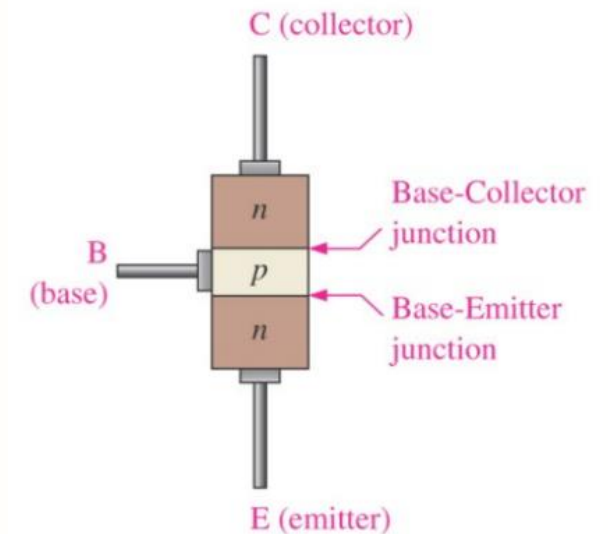
- A bipolar transistor is produced when a third layer is added to a semiconductor diode.
- Bipolar Junction Transistors (BJTs)
- It can amplify power, current, or voltage.
- Also called a junction transistor

## ➤ A transistor:

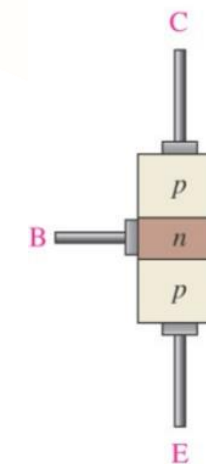
- Can be constructed of germanium or silicon.
- Silicon is more popular.
- Consists of three alternately doped regions.
- The regions are arranged two ways.
  - P-type material is sandwiched between two N-type materials, NPN transistor.
  - N-type material is sandwiched between two P-type materials, PNP transistor.
  - Regions are called **emitter**, **base** and **collector**.



(a) Basic epitaxial planar structure



(b) npn



(c) pnp

# Transistor

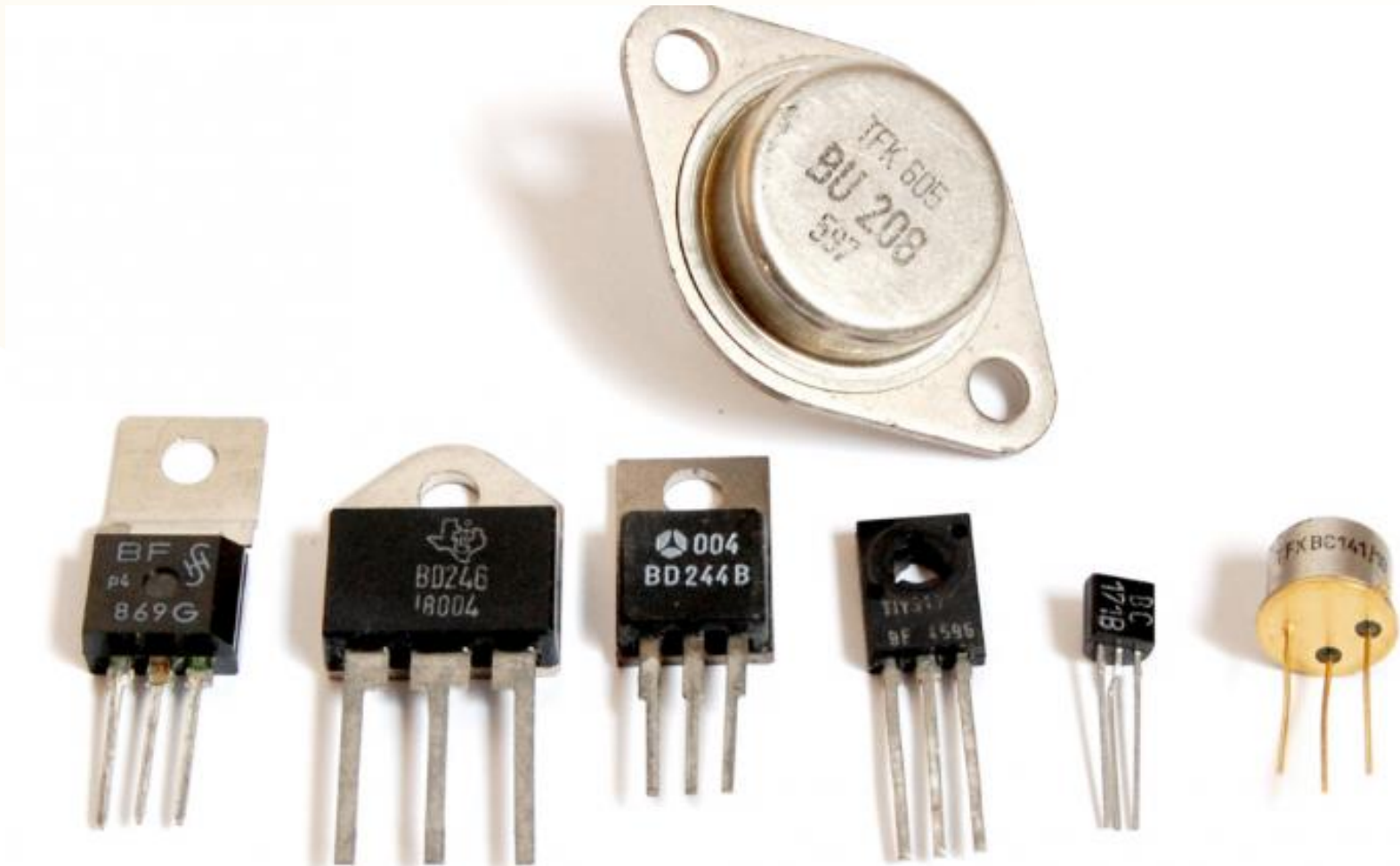
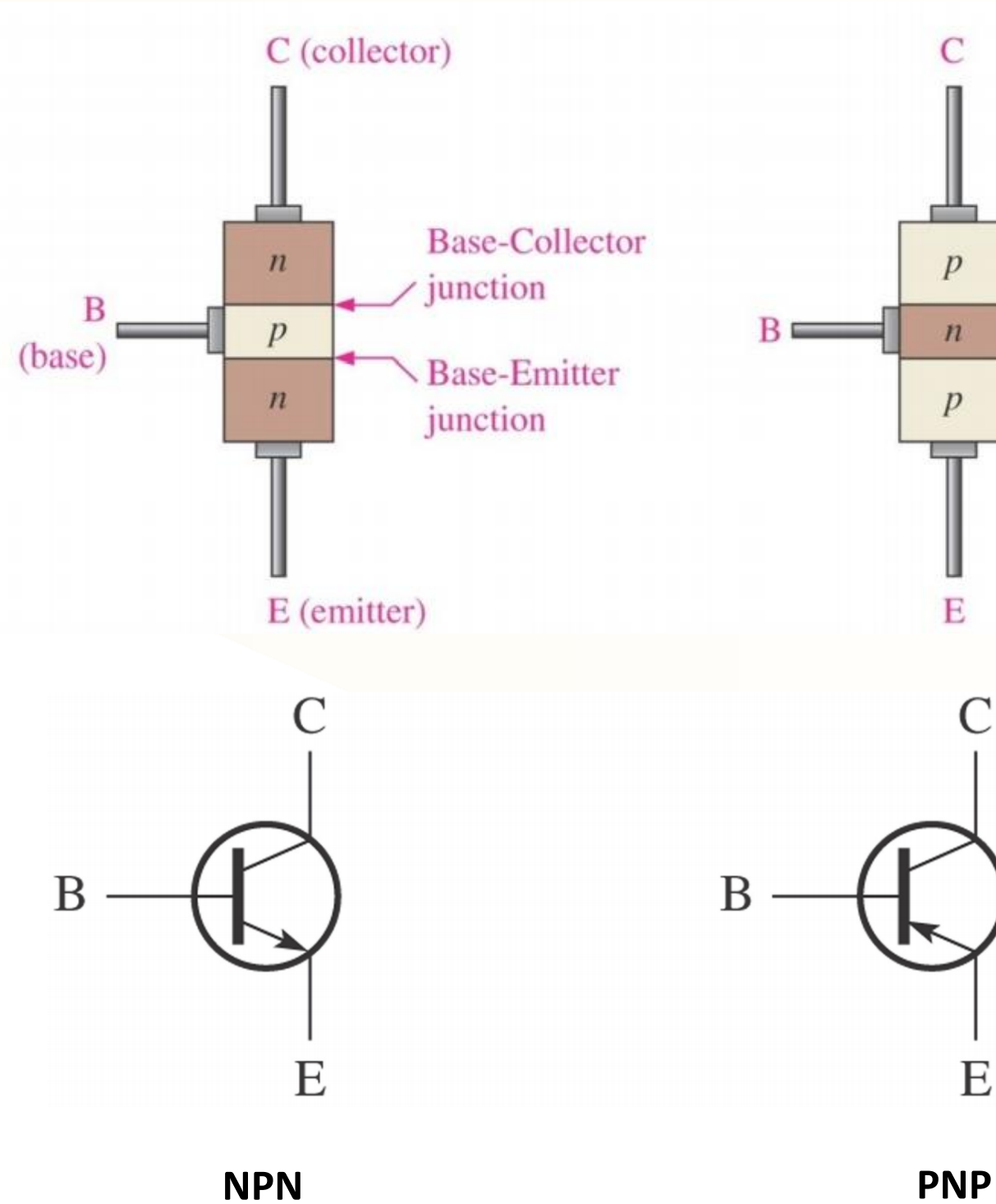


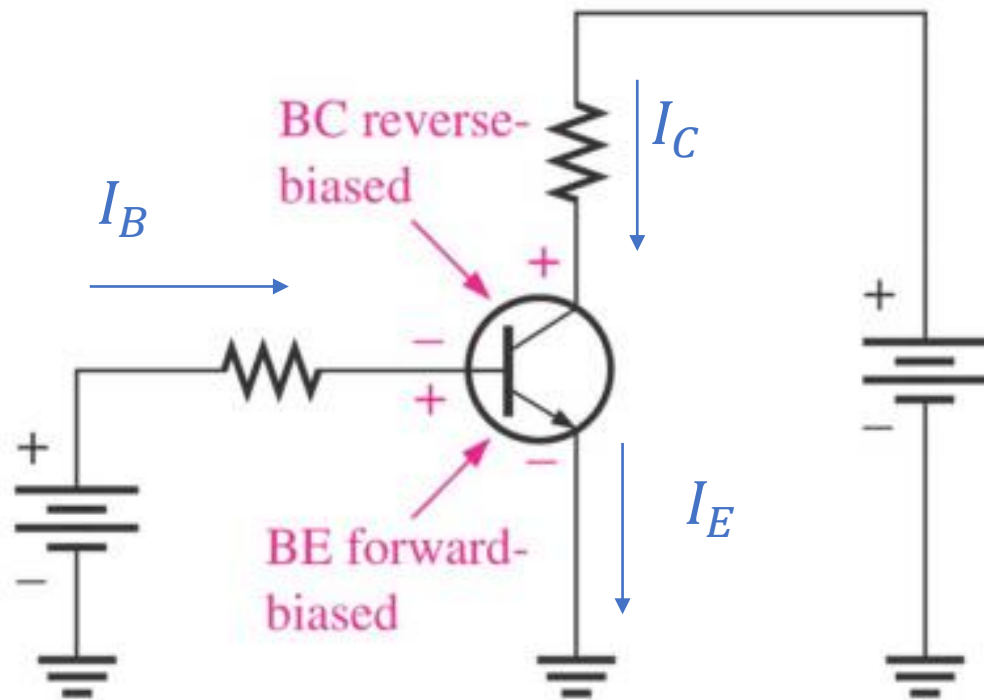
Figure: <https://www.norwegiancreations.com/2016/05/an-intro-to-transistors-and-relays/>



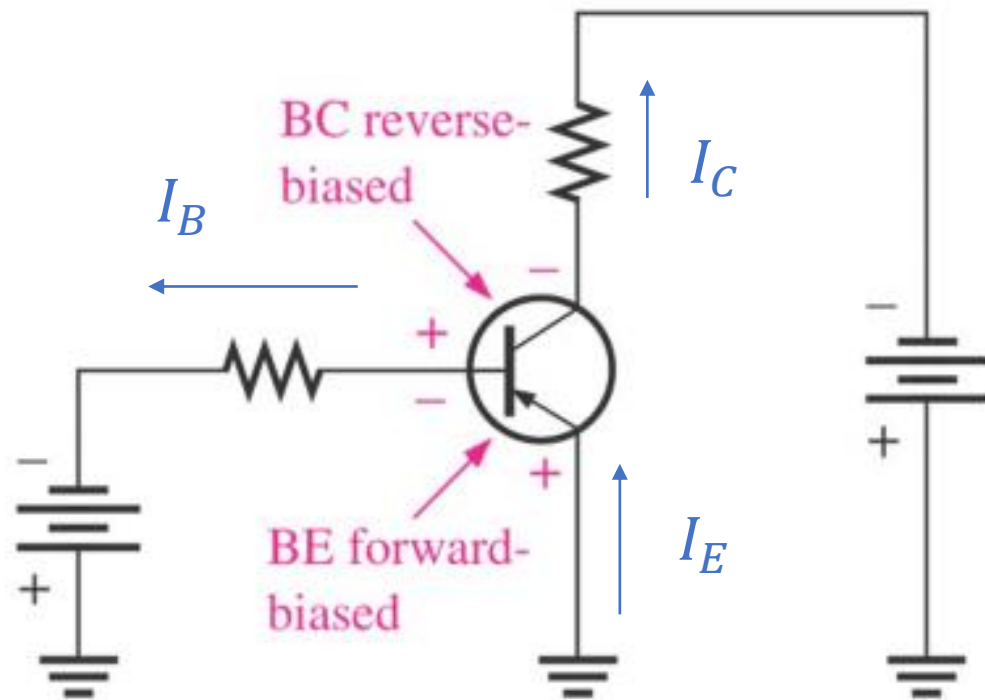
# Transistor



# Transistor



**NPN**



**PNP**

- A transistor must be properly biased
  - The emitter junction is forward biased.
  - The collector junction is reverse biased.
- In a transistor, the barrier voltage is:
  - produced across the emitter junction
  - determined by the type of semiconductor material used
  - the barrier voltage for a germanium transistor is .3 V
  - the barrier voltage for a silicon transistor is .7 V
  - Need to encounter the barrier voltage in the emitter-base junction to make the transistor work
- The reverse-biased voltage applied to the collector-base junction is usually much higher than the forward-biased voltage across the emitter-base junction.

- If it can not encounter the barrier voltage in the emitter-base, there is no current flowing in/out the transistor.
- If the transistor works in active region,

$$I_E = I_C + I_B$$

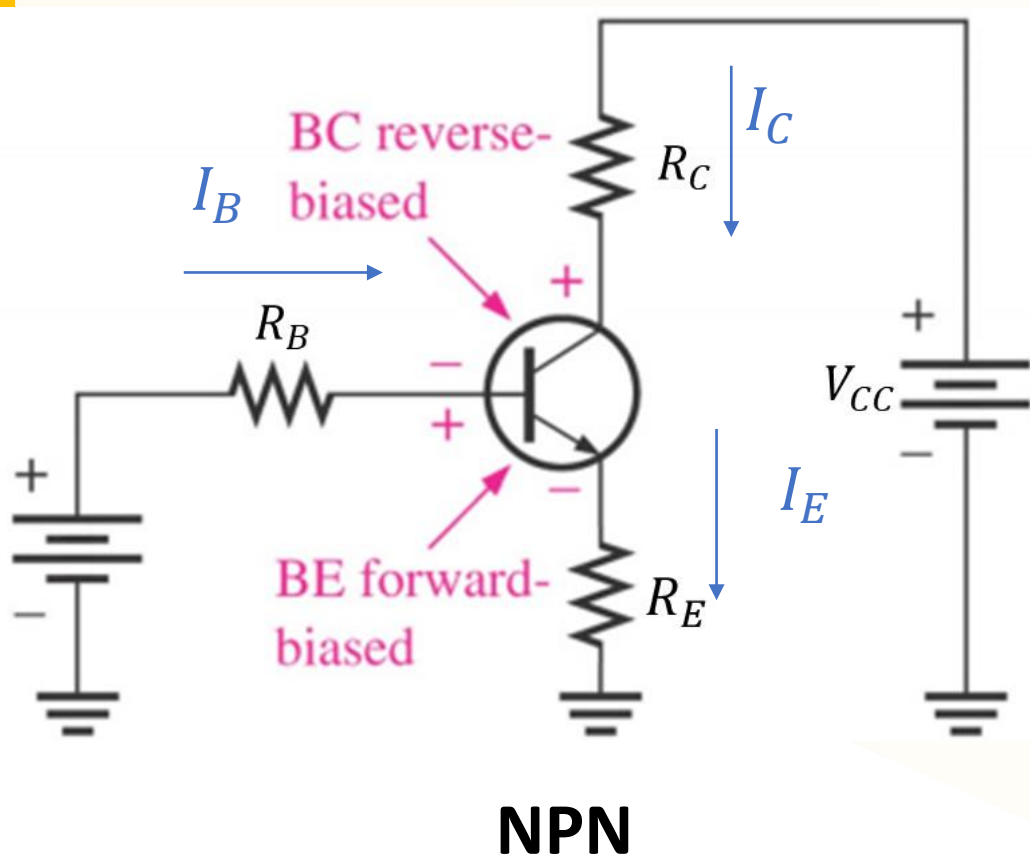
$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

$\beta \sim 20 - 200$  is determined by construction of the transistor

$I_B$  is usually very small.

$$I_E \approx I_C$$

# Transistor



If the transistor works in active region ( $I_C = \beta I_B$ ),

Emitter voltage and Current

$$V_E = V_B - 0.7V$$

$$I_E = V_E / R_E$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

$$I_E \approx I_C$$

$$I_B = I_C / \beta$$

Collector voltage:  $V_C = V_{CC} - I_C R_C$

$$V_{CE} = V_C - V_E$$

➤ A transistor must be properly biased

- The emitter junction is forward biased.
- The collector junction is reverse biased.

$V_B$  denotes the voltage between the base terminal to the ground.

$V_C$  denotes the voltage between the collector terminal to the ground.

$V_E$  denotes the voltage between the emitter terminal to the ground.

➤ A transistor is **trying** to maintain  $I_C = \beta I_B$

➤ The maintaining method is to adjusting  $V_C$  or  $V_{CE}$

# DC Operation of BJTs (active region)

*E.g.*

**Exercise 3-15** Determine  $I_B$ ,  $V_{out1}$ , and  $V_{out2}$  in the transistor circuit of Fig. E3-15, given that  $V_{BE} = 0.7$  V and  $\beta = 200$ .

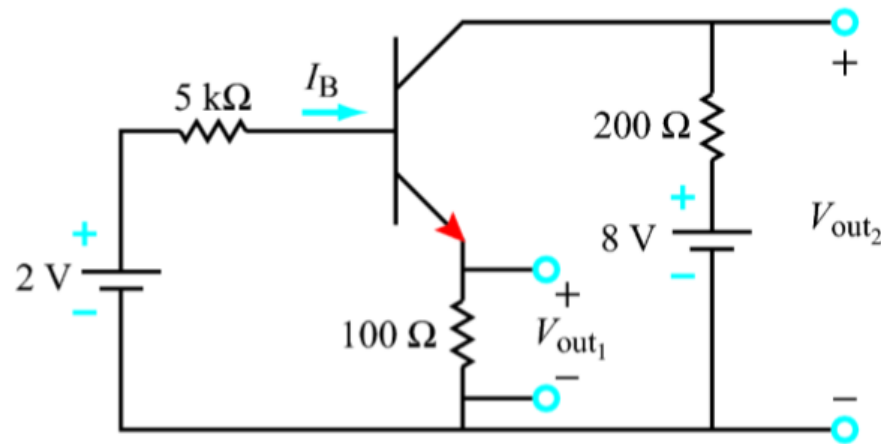


Figure E3.15

**NOTE:** Emitter voltage and Current

$$V_E = V_B - 0.7V$$

$$I_E = V_E / R_E$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

$$I_E \approx I_C$$

$$I_B = I_C / \beta$$

$$\text{Collector voltage: } V_C = V_{CC} - I_C R_C$$

$$V_{CE} = V_C - V_E$$

KVL



$$-2 + 5000I_B + V_{BE} + V_{out1} = 0$$

$$V_{out1} = 100I_E \text{ (Ohm's law)}$$

$$V_{BE} = 0.7V$$

$$I_E = I_C + I_B = (\beta + 1) I_B = 201 I_B$$



$$-2 + 5000I_B + 0.7 + 20100 I_B = 0$$

$$I_B = 51.79\mu A$$



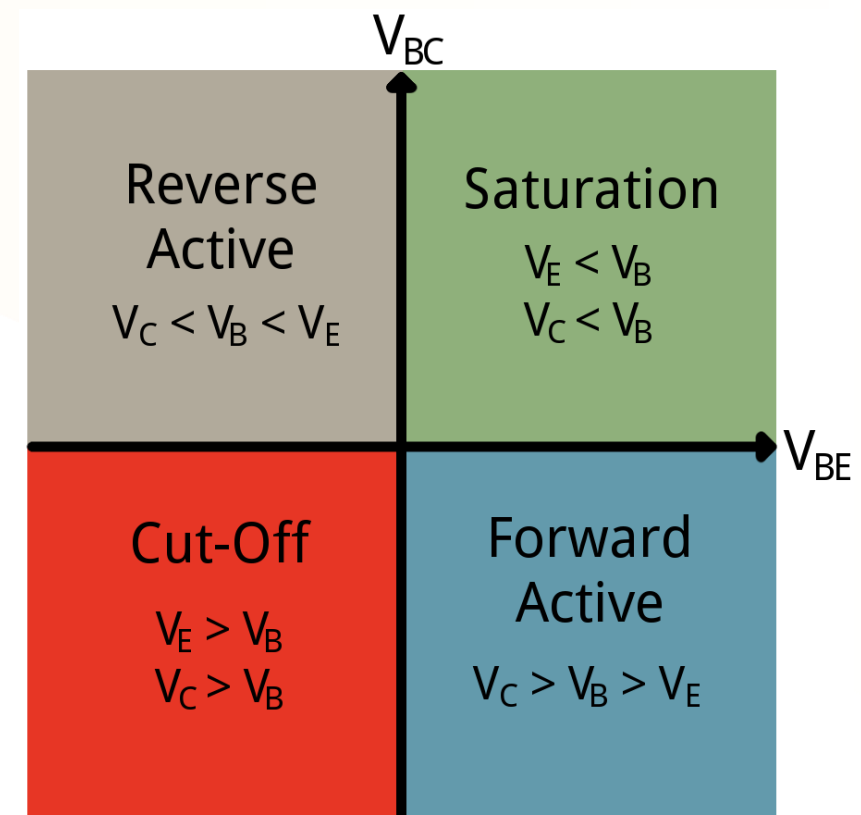
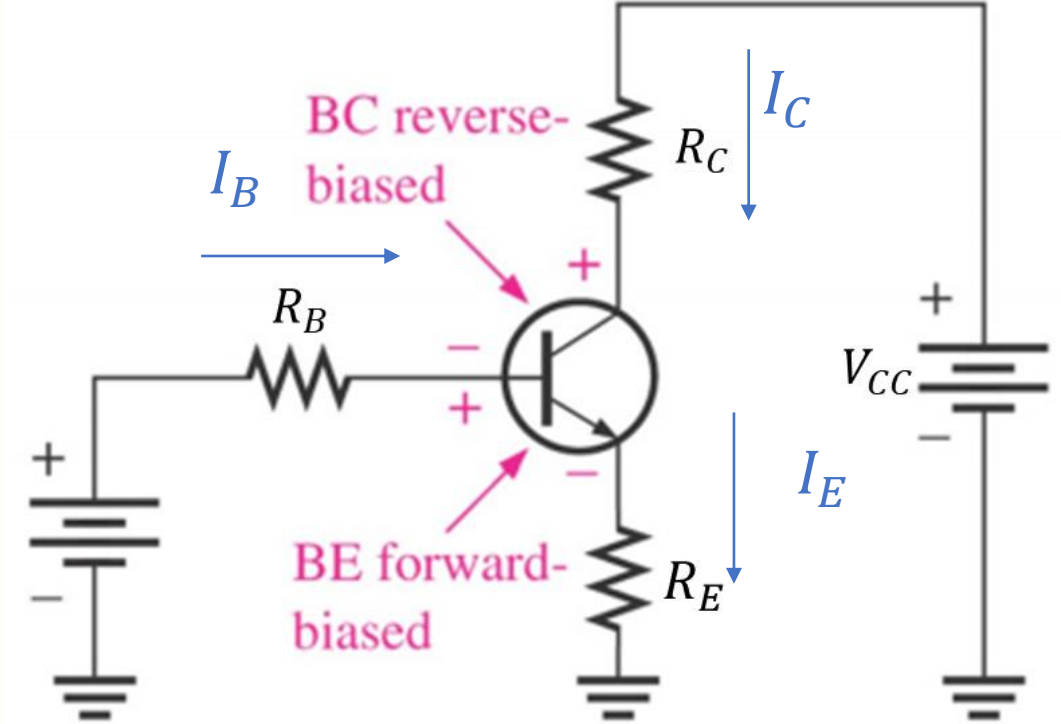
$$V_{out1} = 100I_E = 20100I_B = 1.04V$$

$$V_{out2} = V_C = 8 - 200I_C = 8 - 200 \times 200I_B = 5.93V$$

# Transistor operation modes

- **Cut-off** -- The transistor acts like an **open circuit**. No current flows from collector to emitter.
- **Active** -- The current from collector to emitter is **proportional** to the current flowing into the base. ( $I_C = \beta I_B$ ,  $V_{CE} \geq 0$ )
- **Saturation** -- The transistor acts like a **short circuit**. Current freely flows from collector to emitter. ( $I_C \leq \beta I_B$ ,  $V_{CE} = 0$ )
- **Reverse-Active** -- Like active mode, the current is proportional to the base current, but it flows in reverse. Current flows from emitter to collector (not, exactly, the purpose transistors were designed for)

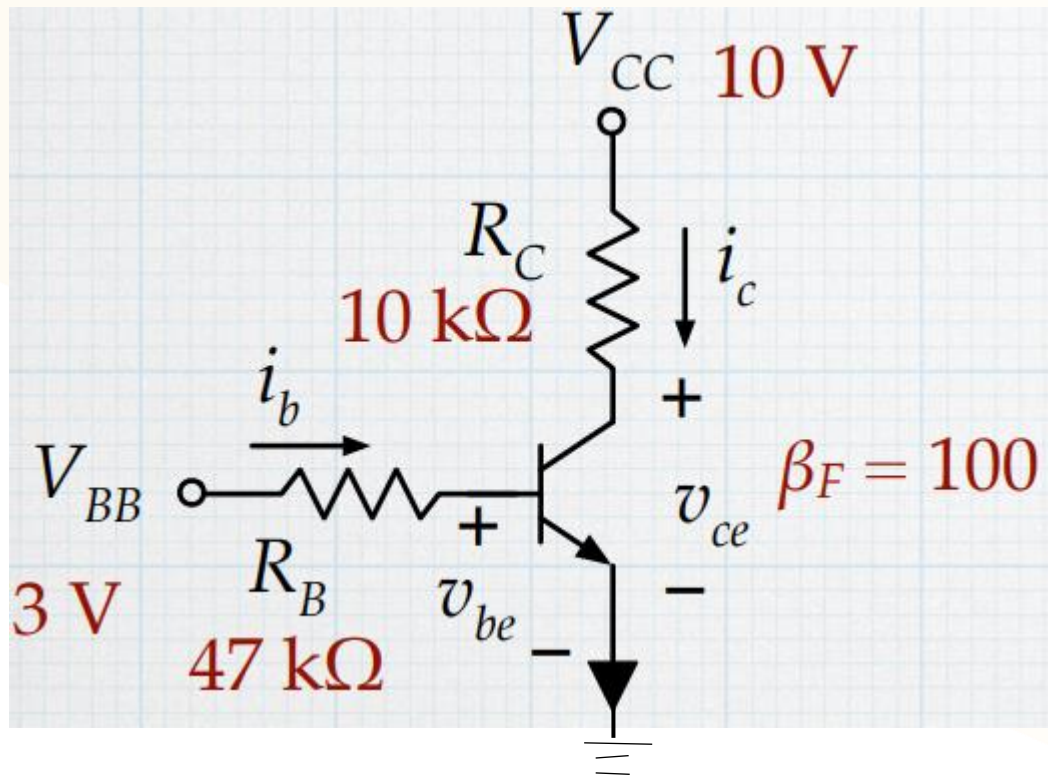
**Note that:** the saturation is generated since  $V_{CE}$  can not be negative.





# Transistor in saturation

For example



$$i_B = \frac{V_{BB} - v_{BE}}{R_B} = \frac{3\text{ V} - 0.7\text{ V}}{47\text{ k}\Omega} = 48.9\text{ }\mu\text{A}$$

If active region

$$i_C = \beta_F i_B = (100)(48.9\text{ }\mu\text{A}) = 4.89\text{ mA}$$

$$v_{CE} = V_{CC} - i_C R_C$$

$$= 10\text{ V} - (4.89\text{ mA})(10\text{ k}\Omega) = -38.9\text{ V} \quad ???$$

Emitter voltage and Current

$$V_E = V_B - 0.7\text{ V}$$

$$I_E = V_E / R_E$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

$$I_E \approx I_C$$

$$I_B = I_C / \beta$$

Collector voltage:  $V_C = V_{CC} - I_C R_C$

$$V_{CE} = V_C - V_E$$

$$V_{CE} \geq 0 \text{ (always)}$$

Corrected solution:

$$i_B = \frac{V_{BB} - v_{BE}}{47\text{ k}\Omega} = \frac{3\text{ V} - 0.7}{47\text{ k}\Omega} = 48.9\text{ }\mu\text{A}$$

$$V_{CE} = 0$$

$$i_C = \frac{V_{CC} - v_{CE} - V_{E\text{Ground}}}{R_C} = \frac{10\text{ V}}{10\text{ k}\Omega} = 1000\text{ }\mu\text{A}$$

$$i_E = i_B + i_C = 1048.9\text{ }\mu\text{A}$$